Destination	April-March 2000-01	April-March 2001-02	April-March 2002-03	Percentage Change 02-03/01-02	Percentage Weight 2002-03
Indonesia	1801.00	2545.35	3997.06	57.03	1.58
Malaysia	2741.63	3689.89	3614.05	-2.06	1.43
				Values in US $ Million	
U.S. A	9236.48	8513.34	10855.58	27.51	20.78
United Arab Emirates	2582.05	2491.79	3313.69	32.98	6.34
United Kingdom	2272.02	2160.87	2472.93	14.44	4.73
Hongkong	2631.30	2366.36	2444.22	3.29	4.68
FRG	1884.35	1788.36	2060.73	15.23	3.95
China P.R.	828.68	951.95	1961.11	106.01	3.75
Japan	1779.30	1510.44	1857.60	22.98	3.56
Belgium	1453.63	1390.62	1648.12	18.52	3.16
Singapore	861.00	972.31	1422.61	46.31	2.72
Italy	1297.39	1206.53	1339.68	11.04	2.56
Bangladesh	872.99	1002.18	1094.57	9.22	2.10
France	1015.22	945.00	1055.23	11.66	2.02
Srilanka	629.46	630.89	920.88	45.96	1.76
Indonesia	394.23	533.71	825.92	54.75	1.58
Malaysia	600.12	773.69	746.78	-3.48	1.43

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkatta

Effect of appreciation oF Rupee against dollar on exports

8. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that appreciation of rupee against dollar during the last one year has affected the exports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The value of Indian rupee has appreciated against US$ by 3.9% in May, 2003 compared to April, 2002, though the rupee has depreciated by 20.6% against the Euro for the same period. Currencies of various countries like French Franc, German Mark, Indonesian Rupiah, Japanese Yen, New Zealand Dollar, Swiss Franc and Singapore Dollar have also appreciated *vis-a-vis* the US$ in the last one year. However, India's exports of merchandise goods have registered a growth rate of 19.2% in dollar terms in 2002-03 compared to 2001-02.

Tobacco consumption

9. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bidi and tobacco chewing accounts for 48% and 38% of the tobacco production, respectively;

(b) whether there is any Government infrastructure to verify tar and nicotine contents; and

(c) the action proposed to make an effective legislation to cover all sorts of tobacco consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Available statistics suggest that bidis and chewing tobacco account for about 30% and 29% respectively of the total tobacco production.

(b) There is no Government infrastructure to verify tar and nicotine contents in tobacco products at present. However, the recently enacted. 'The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" provides for grant of recognition to testing laboratories for testing of nicotine and tar contents in cigarettes and other tobacco products. Action in this direction has been initiated.

(c) "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of